Amendments to the Specification

Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 9, line 33 with the following amended paragraph:

The absorbent article (40), a first embodiment of which is illustrated in FIGURES 3-8, has a principal longitudinal axis (L) which generally runs along the x direction. As used herein, the term "longitudinal" refers to a line, axis or direction in the plane of the absorbent article (40) which is generally aligned with (*e.g.*, approximately parallel to) a vertical plane which bisects a standing female wearer into left and right body halves when the absorbent article is in use. The longitudinal direction is generally illustrated in FIGURES 3 and 9 by the x-axis X-X.

Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 10, line 4 with the following amended paragraph:

The absorbent article (40) also has a transverse axis (T). The terms "transverse," "lateral" or "y direction" as used herein generally refer to a line, axis or direction which is generally perpendicular to the longitudinal direction and in a surface defined between a body-facing surface of the pad and a surface opposing the body-facing surface. The lateral direction is generally illustrated in FIGURES 3 and 9 by the y-axis Y-Y.

Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 10, line 9 with the following amended paragraph:

The "z direction" is typically a line, axis or direction generally parallel to the vertical plane described above. The z direction is generally illustrated in FIGURES 4 and 10 by the indicated z-axis Z-Z.

Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 10, line 11 with the following amended paragraph:

The terms "upper" or "upwardly" refer generally to an orientation directed toward the wearer's head, while the terms "lower" or "downwardly" refer generally to an orientation directed toward the wearer's feet. For purposes of discussion herein, each layer of the absorbent article (40), *e.g.*, a fluid permeable cover (62), a liquid impermeable baffle (64), an absorbent (66), and/or a retainer flap (67) has an upper or body-facing surface and a lower surface also described as the surface opposed to the upper or body-facing surface. Cover (62), baffle (64), absorbent (66), and retainer flap (67) are shown in e.g. FIGURE 4.

Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 20, line 18 with the following amended paragraph:

The first cavity (96) formed by the retainer flap (67) in FIGURES 3A and 4A performs all the desired functions for handling the absorbent article during the placement in the vestibule. When the absorbent article (40) of FIGURES 3A and 4A is to be removed and disposed of after use in the vestibule, the retainer flap (67) can be manipulated by the user's hand as described ~~above~~below for the embodiment of FIGURES 3 and 4, and can also be manipulated in the folding-over function in

preparation for disposal, thereby to hold the facing edge portions in facing relationship with each other. While the open-ended retainer flap (67) may not substantially enclose the entirety of the edge (84) of the absorbent article in the second cavity, some uses are contemplated where such degree of enclosure may not be necessary.

Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 21, line 3 with the following amended paragraph:

The second section (94B) of the second portion (94) ~~edge~~ of the outer perimeter of the retainer flap (67) opposite the first section (94A) of the second ~~first~~ portion (94) of the outer perimeter of the retainer flap (67) ~~outer perimeter~~ can be coincident with the side edge (80) of the absorbent article as in e.g. FIGURES 3 and 4, or can be spaced from the side edge (80) as in FIGURES 3A and 4A. Preferred embodiments are represented by e.g. FIGURES 3 and 4 because the configuration of the first portion (90) of the outer perimeter of the retainer flap (67), extending along the full length of the retainer flap (67) along the side edge (80) of the absorbent article, provides a greater level of containment of any body exudates adjacent the folded-over first and second portions of the outer edge while the absorbent article is being prepared for disposal. Further, the second portion (94) of the outer perimeter of the retainer flap (67), whether sectioned or not sectioned, need not be a straight line configuration, but can be any configuration consistent with the operations and functions described herein with respect to the retainer flap (67).

Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 23, line 3 with the following amended paragraph:

As illustrated in FIGURES 7 and 8, the absorbent articles (40) of the invention can carry printed indicia such as the desired graphic or text message, or both on one or more of the inside surfaces of the first cavity (96). The indicia illustrated in part in FIGURES 7 and 8 is a text message which reads "DISPOSE OF PROPERLY". Such message or other indicia is then exposed when the first cavity is opened up in formation of the second cavity as the absorbent article is being prepared for disposal. Such indicia can be, for example, and without limitation, on an inner surface of the retainer flap (67) ~~or on an outer surface~~, e.g. upper surface (86), or on an outer surface of the baffle (64), "inner" representing an orientation toward the absorbent (66) and "outer" representing an orientation away from the absorbent.